

Expeditionary Command and Control Suite (ECCS)

The Expeditionary Maneuver Warfare (EMW) concept calls for Marine forces to enable the deployment of joint and multi-national operations during the initial stages of a contingency. The Expeditionary Command and Control Suite (ECCS) will provide connectivity to theatre and national assets, and facilitate the timely and efficient dissemination of information throughout the Marine Air-Ground Task Force (MAGTF).

ECCS is a scalable, deployable, data/voice satellite communications system capable of deploying on commercial and military air- and land-based platforms with a minimal physical and logistical footprint. It is designed to support up to 20 staff members and operate on the move, depending on the deployed system configuration. It consists of two primary parts. The Base Station, which includes the equipment necessary to terminate multiple spokes, is permanently installed at garrison Marine Expeditionary Forces (MEF) Headquarters (HQs). The second is the Deployable System, consisting of a scalable communications technology, which will terminate at MEF HQs and receive services through a reach-back connection.

ECCS is designed to enhance the command and control capability of the MAGTF commander. ECCS will provide secure e-mail, web access, voice communication, video teleconferencing, C2PC/COP and collaborative planning, using the Defense Collaboration Tool Suite (DCTS) standard. ECCS will enable commanders to properly tailor their initial entry force to respond to a wide range of crises, from forcible entry to humanitarian assistance.

Marine Forces equipped with ECCS capabilities will be able to rapidly deploy a scalable communications system, using a wide range of transportation options (C-130, C-17, C-141, C-9, CH-53, and V-22). The capability allows MAGTF commanders connectivity into the Global Information Grid from remote and austere locations worldwide. In addition, this capability improves on-the-move situational awareness and enables the commander to conduct collaborative planning, while en route to contingency operations. The ECCS capability will address the on-the-move, command-and-control function required by the Marine Corps.